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Cuban Exiles Confirm Invasion Assurance

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A Cuban exile leader says a CIA agent named "Jack Haskins" informed President Kennedy just before the Cuban exile invasion in April, 1961, that the exile brigade could overthrow Fidel Castro without United States help.

Justo Carillo, member of the Cuban Revolutionary Council which was the political army of the invasion, identified the agent as "Jack Haskins" on a special television program of the National Broadcasting Co. last night entitled "Bay of Pigs Disaster."

United States official sources, here, while not denying that such a CIA agent existed, said that "Jack Haskins" is only an "approximation" of the agent's correct name.

Leonard Giovannetti, associate producer and director of the program, said other members of the Revolutionary Council at the meeting with Mr. Kennedy have confirmed Mr. Carillo's account.

The NBC production also included the first film sequences of the invasion beachhead shown in this country. Part came from East Germany through West Germany—and were filmed by East German cameramen—and the other part came from Castro Cuba via Canada.

Mr. Carillo said that he and

the six other members of the Revolutionary Council learned Mr. Haskins' name and saw his message in a telegram which Mr. Kennedy himself showed the council at their special White House meeting on the day the invasion collapsed.

According to Mr. Carillo, Mr. Kennedy said that he had sent a telegram to Mr. Haskins in Nicaragua on April 13, 1961, where the latter was in charge of loading the exile brigade aboard ships. The President asked whether the brigade was equipped to overthrow the Castro regime on its own.

Mr. Carillo said that the answer which Mr. Kennedy received and later showed to the Cuban leaders—when refusing their urgent plea for United States military support to save the invasion—gave assurances that the brigade could carry out the operation on its own.